



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

**Ernie Fletcher**  
Governor

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**Mark D. Birdwhistell**  
Secretary

Dear Pastor:

The Kentucky Department for Public Health's (DPH) 12<sup>th</sup> Annual African-American and Hispanic Leadership Conference on HIV/AIDS will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel – The Campbell House, 1375 South Broadway in Lexington, Kentucky. To kick-off this year's conference, entitled "**26 Years of AIDS is Enough: The Time to Deliver is NOW!**," DPH will host a *special faith-based initiative forum* at the Crowne Plaza on Thursday, September 6, 2007, from 5 – 9 PM. All interested persons are invited to attend this special event, which is free to all clergymen and will include a dinner.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stated that African-Americans and Hispanics represent about 70% of new HIV cases diagnosed in 2005 in the United States. Of the rates of diagnoses for adults and adolescents in 2005 for all racial and ethnic groups, the highest was in the black population (71.3 per 100,000) and the second highest (27.8 per 100,000) was in the Hispanic population. African-Americans and Hispanics comprised 13% and 14% of the U.S. population in 2005; however, they accounted for 49% and 19% of all new HIV diagnoses respectively. Kentucky's African-American population made up only 7.5% of the state's total population, yet African-Americans comprised 31 percent of AIDS cases diagnosed in 2006; and Hispanics comprised 2% of the population, yet accounted for 3% of the AIDS cases diagnosed.

In recognition of the historical and vital role of faith leaders in effecting positive change within minority communities and in response to the disproportionate impact of HIV/AIDS in these communities, the DPH has set forth a **Call to Action** for all faith leaders to join the fight against the spread of the disease. In its "Heightened National Response to the HIV/AIDS Crisis Among African Americans", released in 2007, CDC recommended broader community action and urged all community leaders, especially faith leaders, to join in a heightened, collaborative effort to achieve significant reductions in HIV/AIDS and to ultimately end this epidemic among African-Americans. This conference will provide valuable information on HIV/AIDS education, information dissemination, technical assistance, HIV Testing and medical updates in an effort to support, encourage, and empower Kentucky's African-American and Hispanic communities to take action toward stopping the spread of HIV/AIDS. Individuals from all walks of life will be provided the skills and knowledge to return to their communities and implement prevention activities targeting minorities. In order to make a difference as a community, we need YOU to be the leaders and pioneers of this movement designed to draw attention to, and stop the spread of HIV.

For more information, please contact Beverly Mitchell or Michael Hambrick, HIV-AIDS Branch, Kentucky Department for Public Health, at 1-800-420-7431 or 502-564-6539 (extensions 3558 and 3560 respectively).

Sincerely,

Beverly Mitchell, Conference Committee Chair



# Registration

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual African American and Hispanic Leadership Conference

*presents*

### Faith Based Initiative Forum and Dinner

- ☐ **YES!** I will attend the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual African American and Hispanic Leadership Conference Faith Based Initiative Forum and Dinner.
- ☐ **NO.** I will be unable to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual African American and Hispanic Leadership Conference Faith Based Initiative Forum and Dinner. **HOWEVER**, I will be sending the following person to attend this important event.
- ☐ **NO.** I will be unable to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual African American and Hispanic Leadership Conference Faith Based Initiative Forum and Dinner.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**For More Information please call:** Beverly Mitchell or Michael Hambrick at 1-800-420-7431 extensions 3558 and 3560;  
Fax: 502-564-9865

Mail to: Department for Public Health  
African American and Hispanic Leadership Conference  
C/O Beverly Mitchell  
HIV/AIDS Branch  
275 East Main Street Mail Stop HS2E-C  
Frankfort, KY. 40621

***Please Return Registration Forms In by August 28, 2007.***